

**Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board**

1422 HOWE AVENUE, SUITE 3, SACRAMENTO, CA 95825

TELEPHONE: (916) 263-2666/ FAX: (916) 263-2668

www.slpab.ca.gov

**Complaint Disclosure Policy**  
**Adopted August 10, 2001**

The Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board adopts the following complaint disclosure policy:

Complaints are not disclosed to the public, unless an accusation is filed as a result of the complaint. The accusation and any subsequent pleadings or decisions are public record but the identity of the patient/client will not be disclosed.

The Board will disclose information concerning the issuance of a citation, fine and/or order of abatement once the fine is paid, once the action is abated, or upon the expiration of the 30 day period from the date of issuance if no request for a hearing has been received, whichever date first occurs. If the cited person requests an informal conference, the Board will disclose information concerning the issuance of a citation, fine and/or order of abatement after a final decision has been reached. If the cited person requests a formal hearing, the Board will disclose information concerning the citation, fine and/or violation. In all instances where the Board discloses such information, the Board will also disclose information concerning the underlying violation of law which led to the citation, fine and/or order of abatement.

With respect to a licensed individual inquiring about his or her own complaint history, the Board will follow Section 800(c) of the Business and Professions Code, which requires the Board to provide a summary of all complaints without disclosing the source of the complaint.

**Business and Professions Code**

**800. (c)** The contents of any central file which are not public records under any other provision of law shall be confidential except that the licensee involved, or his or her counsel or representative, shall have the right to inspect and have copies made of his or her complete file except for the provision that may disclose the identity of an information source. For the purposes of this section, a board may protect an information source by providing a copy of the material with only those deletions necessary to protect the identity of the source or by providing a comprehensive summary of the substance of the material. Whichever method is used, the board shall ensure that full disclosure is made to the subject of any personal information that could reasonably in any way reflect or convey anything detrimental, disparaging, or threatening to a licensee's reputation, rights, benefits, privileges, or qualifications, or be used by a board to make a determination that would affect a licensee's rights, benefits, privileges, or qualifications.

The licensee may, but is not required to, submit any additional exculpatory or explanatory statement or other information which the board shall include in the central file.

Each board may permit any law enforcement or regulatory agency when required for an investigation of unlawful activity or for licensing, certification, or regulatory purposes to inspect and have copies made of that licensee's file, unless the disclosure is otherwise prohibited by law.

These disclosures shall effect no change in the confidential status of these records.

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Information on Medical Board of California's  
Regulations Regarding Complaint Disclosure.

California Code of Regulations

1354.5. Requirements for Information Disclosure.

The following information, if known, will be disclosed upon request regarding any physician and surgeon licensed in California:

- (a) Current status of a license, issuance and expiration date of a license, medical school of graduation and date of graduation.
- (b) Any public document filed against any physician and surgeon, and any disposition thereof, including but not limited to, accusations, decisions, temporary restraining orders, interim suspension orders, citations, and public letters of reprimand. Accusations which have been filed and later withdrawn shall be retained in the board's files for a period of one year after the accusation was withdrawn.
- (c) Medical malpractice judgments in excess of \$30,000 reported to the board on or after January 1, 1993, including the amount of the judgment, the date of the judgment, the court of jurisdiction, the case number, a brief summary of the circumstances as provided by the court, and an appropriate disclaimer, including but not limited to, the accuracy of the information provided.
- (d) Discipline imposed by another state or the federal government reported to the board on or after January 1, 1991, including the discipline imposed, the date of the discipline, the state where the discipline was imposed, and an appropriate disclaimer, including but not limited to, the accuracy of the information provided.
- (e) California felony convictions reported to the board on or after January 1, 1991, including the nature of the conviction, the date of conviction, the sentence, if known, the court of jurisdiction, and an appropriate disclaimer, including but not limited to, the accuracy of the information provided.